The AWOC Facilitator's Guide



to the NWS Learning Management System

Presented by the Warning Decision Training Branch

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Introduction

National Weather Service (NWS) has recently implemented a new Learning Management System (LMS). The goal of the LMS is to provide easy management of training for NWS personnel. The LMS industry has undergone significant changes and growing pains as these systems become more powerful and useful.

This year, 2004, marks the first time NWS is using a LMS to manage NWS developed training. AWOC is the first course to use the LMS for training management. As a result, there is a great deal to learn about the strengths and limitations of the LMS for long term training management. It is the goal of the Warning Decision Training Branch (WDTB), and all of Training Division, to ease the growing pains we will experience as we move forward in this area.

About This Guide

This document provides an AWOC-specific look at how to manage personnel training using the new LMS. It is a brief overview of some of the features in the LMS. In addition to this document, WDTB will be providing support on the WDTB Website (http://wdtb.noaa.gov) and in a new mailing list for AWOC Facilitators. The mailing list is expected to be implemented by late August, 2004.

Future

In the months ahead, WDTB and others in Training Division, will be providing more information and training about the LMS as it evolves. We are also planning to use the LMS for this Fall's DLOC (FY05).

Getting Started

System Log On

The first step to the LMS is logging in. The LMS is located at http://e-learning.noaa.gov. Upon entry to the site, you will be at the NOAA lobby.



Figure 1. Main Menu, NOAA Lobby

Clicking on the "Log On" button will display the Logon Popup. It is important to disable popup blockers in your web browser when viewing the LMS site. The "User Name" is the employee's email address left of the "@"



Figure 2. Log On popup.

symbol. If the user does not remember their password, click on the "I forgot my password" link to prompt the system to send your password via email.

After a successful log on, the "Log On" button reads "Log Off" and the "My Courses" button is no longer grayed out. You will also notice the LMS uses a "3D-like" or graphical interface. For the purposes of AWOC, most navigation can be performed via the Menu Items, or Menu Buttons.

Key Menu Items



Figure 3. Main Menu after log on.

This discussion will highlight functions relevant to AWOC. Other navigation features are left to the student as an exercise.

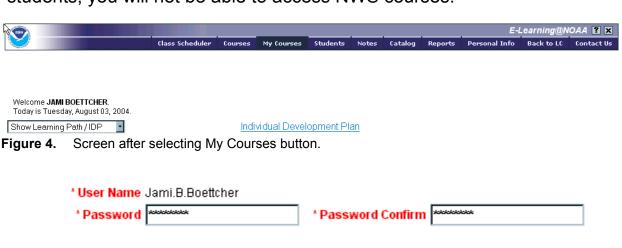
My Courses

The "My Courses" button is normally the first place to go to manage your training, or your student's training. On the "My Courses" page, students can see a listing of all courses they are registered for. The courses are displayed based upon delivery method or Learning Path. The default menu item is the online courses. By choosing the dropdown, students may display Instructor Led Training (ILT) courses they are registered for, or Learning Paths assigned to them. This includes the "Individual Development Plan".

The most significant menu items for AWOC management on this page are: "Personal Info", "Students", "Class Scheduler" and "Reports". We will take a look at details of each one of these areas.

Personal Info

The "Personal Info" item is quite important. This screen displays information stored in the LMS about you. This is also where users can change their password. One of the more important items for AWOC is the "User Type". AWOC Facilitators should be listed as a "Facility Instructor". Another key item is the "Org Code". The "Org Code" defines which user data you have access to. In Figure 5, Jami is assigned to Org Code WB9620. This is WDTB's Org Code, so Jami will be able to manage training for anyone in WDTB. The "User Type" and "Org Code" must be correct in order to properly utilize LMS functions. The "Library Access" item shows which courses a student is allowed access. The Library Access Code for NWS courses is "W". If this value is not assigned to you or your students, you will not be able to access NWS courses.



*Last Name BOETTCHER * First Name JAMI. MI B Generational Qualifier Title HYDRLGST INSTR Date Registered *Line Office NWS Org Code WB9620 Employee ID DOC Org Code Pay Plan GS Job Series 1315 Grade 13 ASC MASC Library Access BCLW User Type: Facility Instructor SubOffice * Office OS EOP EOD Instructor Program Education Level **Figure 5.** Personal Info screen. Important fields are highlighted.

Managing Students

Students Menu



Figure 6. The Student screen.

Much of the management of AWOC students occurs on the "Students" menu. Key items on this page are "Learning Path" and "Select Student" item. Also of use are the "Add/Remove" links.

Add/Remove

With the "Add/Remove" links, you can modify registration of students to online training (OLT) classes. If a student accidentally registers for an OLT course, you can remove the course from their "My Courses" page with this function. See "Adding or Removing OLT Courses" on page 13.

Learning Path

The "Learning Path" is key to AWOC. The Learning Path (LP) is the method by which AWOC is assigned to students. LPs can be used to monitor progress through AWOC. An important concept is the "Learning Path Template". The LP template is a LP that can be assigned to any student. Once assigned, the LP is only modified by interacting with that student's account.

Assigning a LP Template

To assign a LP Template to individuals, click on the "Learning Path" link - again, *without having a student selected*. After the link is selected, you will see two new form areas on the page. The first, "Select Learning Plan" is used to Edit, Delete, or Assign LPs. The second is used to create new LPs.

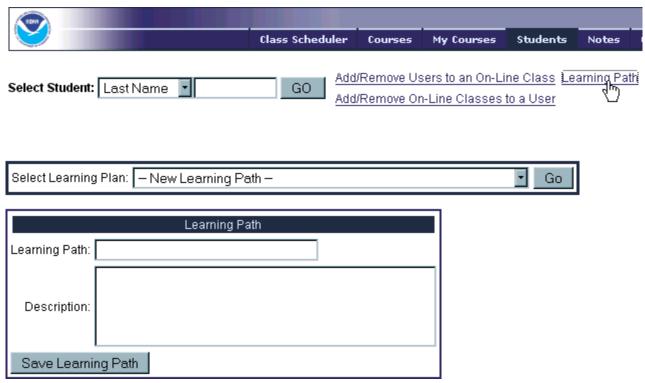


Figure 7. After choosing the "Learning Path" link.

AWOC has two LPs: "NWS AWOC Core Track (FY05)" and "NWS AWOC Severe Track (FY05)". You will want to assign both of these LPs to your students, unless they are Hydrologists. Hydrologists have the option of not taking the Severe Track. Note that all LPs in the system are displayed in the "Select Learning Plan" drop down menu.

After choosing the LP, you assign the LP to students by selecting their names (using the shift or control key) then selecting the "Assign Students to Learning Plan" button. (See Fig. 8 on page 7.)

Once the LP has been assigned, changes to the template will not be reflected in the student's "My Courses" page.

Please DO NOT modify or delete LP Templates you have not created!

Editing a LP Assigned to a Student

A LP can be modified or removed from a student account by selecting a student and choosing the LP to edit. The process is similar to assigning

Select Learning Plan: NWS AWOC Core Track (FY05)		▼ Go
Students: LADUE, JAMES (James.G.Ladue) LEVIT, NICKI (Nicki.L.Levit) MAGSIG, MICHAEL (Michael.A.Magsig) MAHONEY, ED (Ed.Mahoney) QUOETONE, LIZ (Liz.Quoetone) SAID, NAZIR (Nazir.A.Said) SCHLATTER, PAUL (Paul.T.Schlatter) SOUTHARD, JAMES (James.P.Southard) WOOD, ANDREW (Andrew.C.Wood) YU, XUECHAO (Xuechao.Yu)		
NWS AWOC Core Track (FY05)		
Description:		
The Core Track of AWOC provides an overview an introduction to AWOC as well as instruction in topics such as: Situation Awareness, Office practices in a warning environment, data qual:		
Overall Due Date:		
On-Line Courses 🛨		
Course Name:	Due Date:	
X AWOC IC Care 0: Welcome to AWOC		
AWOC IC Core 1: Optimizing Learning		
AWOC IC Core 2: Situation Awareness and Decision Making in a Warning Environment AWOC IC Core 3: Expertise and Effective Office Warning Strategies		
AWOC IC Core 4: Data Quality		
AWOC IC Core 5: Societal Impacts and Public Perception		
Instructor Led Courses 🛨		
Course Name: AWOC IC Core 3: Expertise and Effective Office Warning Strategies - Lesson 3: Learning from Post-Mor User Defined Tasks	Due Date:	
No User Defined Tasks Found		
Assign Students to Learning Plan Delete Plan		

Figure 8. Choosing a Learning Path displays details about the path. This is the LP Template. It can then be assigned to students. **Be careful not to accidentally delete a LP Template**.

the LP to the student, but this time, select the student using the form fields as seen in Fig. 9.

To choose a student, simply click the "Go" button at the top of the "Students" page. If you do not enter a name in the input box, a listing of students available to you, based upon your Org Code, will be displayed. Select a student and another menu appears.

The chosen student is identified above the buttons. In this case, we are looking at Nazir's menu. The menu options are "Register", "Cancel", "Personal Info", "Activity Log" and "Student Learning Path". *All of these items deal with OLT Courses with the exception of "Student Learning Path".* LPs can include OLT, ILT and "User Defined Tasks".

By clicking on "Student Learning Path" we will be taken to a similar screen when we assigned the LP Template (see Fig. 10), but this time we are

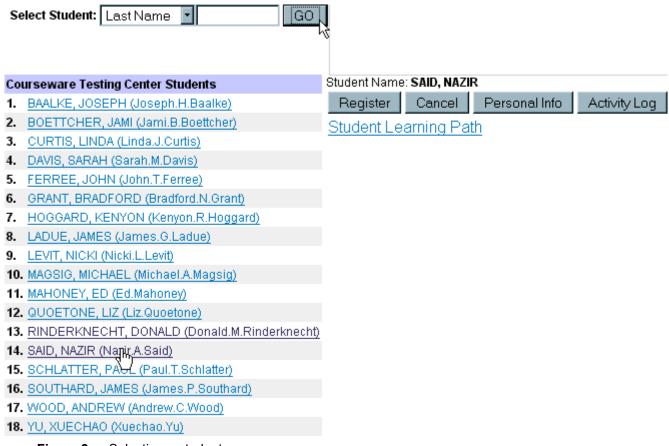
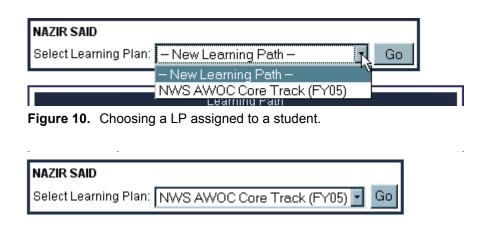


Figure 9. Selecting a student.

looking at the LP assigned to the student after choosing the LP (see Fig. 11).



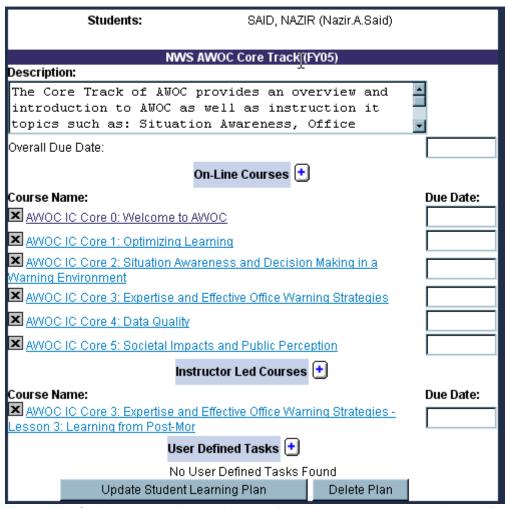


Figure 11. Student name indicates this is a LP assigned to a student, and not a LP Template.

One interesting item to note. If you try to edit your own account, you will not have access to LPs assigned to you as seen in Fig. 10. You will only see your "Individual Development Plan"!

Delete the LP

To delete the LP for Nazir, we would hit the "Delete Plan" button. One reason to delete the LP is if it were assigned to the wrong student. When the LP is deleted, individual courses are still displayed in the "My Courses" page for the student. Those need to be removed in a separate step. (See "Adding or Removing OLT Courses" on page 13.)

Again, be very careful NOT TO DELETE LPs you have not created (or assigned to one of your students).

Edit the LP

There are two types of edits you can make to the LP. The first is assigning Due Dates. Feel free to assign due dates as you deem necessary. Due dates should be used to help keep student progress moving forward.

The other edit is to add (or remove) elements from the LP. WDTB does not recommend removal of items that were defined in the LP Template. However, the local facilitator may add or remove other items as needed. One example of an item to add is the optional ICs in IC Severe 3. (Jim LaDue will show some examples during the AWOC Facilitator Workshop.)

Add an Element

To add an element to the LP, simply click on the "plus button" next to the category label ("Online Courses", "Instructor Led Courses", or "User Defined Tasks"). A new window will open to allow selection of courses to add.

Enter a keyword in the input field, and a Category in the dropdown menu. The Type of course is automatically selected when hitting the "plus button". To add the desired course to the LP, simply click on the check boxes, then click on the "Submit" button at the bottom of the window (not pictured).

My Plan Admin

Keyword:	
Туре:	On-Line •
Category:	- All Categories -
You can on Info tab.	ly select from On-Line courses that are specified within the Library Access code assigned to you under the Personal
	Search

Figure 12. My Plan Admin window to add elements to the LP.

My Plan Admin

Keyword:	AWOC
Туре:	On-Line T
Category:	NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE COURSES
You can or Info tab.	nly select from On-Line courses that are specified within the Library Access code assigned to you under the Personal
	Search

	On-Line 11 records found.				
Course Name	Summary	Category	Select a course Check All		
AWOC IC Core 0: Welcome to AWOC	An introduction to AWOC for students and facilitators. Included in this welcome IC is a video perspective on the NWS warning process from respected field experts, and an excercise to emphasize the importance of the warning decision making process. This introduction also includes an overview of AWOC contents and resources.	Training			
AWOC IC Core 1: Optimizing Learning	In order for learning to be effective, both trainer and train he have roles and responsibilities to bring to the task. Learning is not a one-way street from trainer to trainee, but a partnership which depends on the interaction of both. This module will present learning strategies which will be employed during the Advanced Warning Operations Course. This will include a discussion of learning styles, the need for evaluation, and the methodology for simulations which will be presented in the course. Lastly a brief discussion of the Learning Management System used in AWOC will be presented.	Training			
and Decision	IC Core 2 will focus on various aspects of decision making in the context of the operational warning environment. The topics will include definitions and examples of the three levels of situation awareness (SA) and how they are integrated into the decision making process. Failures of the three levels of SA will be presented with examples, as well as elements that contribute to SA failures. Finally, roadblocks to good SA ("SA demons"), and their impact on operations will be discussed.	Situation Awareness			

Figure 13. My Plan Admin page after search. Click the check boxes to add elements to the LP.

ILT Course Registration

Once the LP is assigned to the student, they are automatically registered for OLT Courses in the LP. There is no need to add course registrations for the student for AWOC using the "Register" button on this page.

Registration for ILT requires another step. The recommended method is to discuss schedules with your students and have them sign up for the desired "class" for the ILT "course". This can most easily be done from their "My Courses" page with the "Show Learning Path" item chosen.

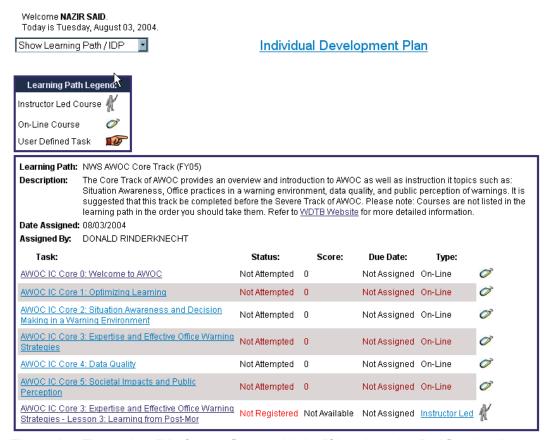


Figure 14. The student "My Courses" page with the "Show Learning Path" option displayed via the choice in the dropdown box at the top of the screen. Note the link for the ILT course at the bottom.

There is a link for the ILT course. This link takes the student to the location to choose which "class" or section to take the ILT.

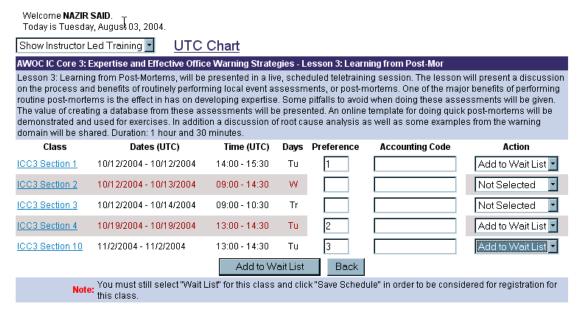
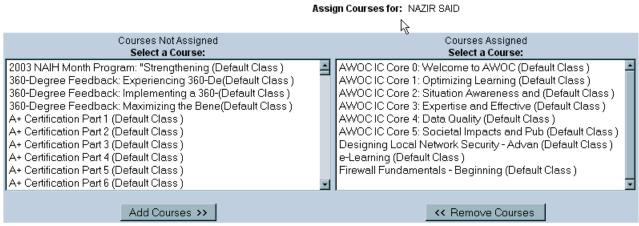


Figure 15. From this screen, the student chooses which "class" to take the ILT course. A preference indicates the priority of the classes desired.

Adding or Removing OLT Courses

OLT course registrations can be added or removed for students. From the "Students" page, select the "Add/Remove Users to an On-Line Class" or "Add/Remove On-Line Classes to a User" link. To work with an individual student, choose the second link. A new form appears in the window, allowing you to choose a user. After choosing one of your users, a pair of selection boxes are displayed.

To remove courses the student is registered for, select the course name in the right hand box and select the "Remove Courses" button. To add courses for this student, select the courses in the left hand box and select the "Add Courses" button. Note that all courses the student is allowed to take (via their Library Access Code) are displayed in the "Courses Not Assigned" box.



Use the Shift and Ctrl keys to select multiple classes

Figure 16. Add/Remove On-Line Classes to a User.

Tracking Progress

Tracking, Completion and Feedback

In the "My Courses" page, you will see courses listed that you have registered for and have attempted. At this point, all AWOC courses will show "Not Attempted" until completed. This is because only AICC or SCORM compliant course will report progress back to the LMS. AWOC courses are not SCORM compliant at this time.

To complete a OLT course, the test must be completed. To complete an ILT course, a Test and Survey must be completed. We request that all students complete surveys in any course taken during AWOC. We will be using feedback from the surveys to improve the course. The survey is available as a "tab" on the course page.



Instructions

Presentation: The presentation can be paused and restarted at any point. Click the "Launch Presentation" button to start the presentation in a separate window.



Presentation System Requirements: To view the presentation, you will need <u>Macromedia Flash 5</u> or higher. The presentation should work in many browsers, but we recommend using Internet Explorer, version 6 or higher. If you have any technical problems please email our <u>Webmaster</u>, or send a <u>Feedback Message</u>.



Figure 17. A Course page from the student perspective.

Reports

There are several types of reports available in the LMS. These are "Survey", "Student Transcript", "Students by Course", "Summary Report" and "Learning Path". For purposes of AWOC, the "Student Transcript", "Students by Course" and "Learning Path" reports are most likely to be useful. Your mileage may vary. To access the reports, click the "Reports" button from the "My Courses" page.

Student Transcript

SAID, NAZIR						
Status: Active				Nui	mber Of Logins: 16	
				Tot	al Time Logged In:	5 hours 5 minutes.
Course Name	Register Date	Date Started	Date Completed	Test Score	Lesson Status	Time In Course
AWOC IC Core 0: Welcome to AWOC	08/02/2004	N/A	N/A		Not Attempted	N/A
AWOC IC Core 1: Optimizing Learning	08/02/2004	N/A	N/A		Not Attempted	N/A
AWOC IC Core 2: Situation Awareness and Decision Making in a Warning Environment	08/02/2004	N/A	N/A		Not Attempted	N/A
AWOC IC Core 3: Expertise and Effective Office Warning Strategies	08/03/2004	N/A	N/A		Not Attempted	N/A
AWOC IC Core 3: Expertise and Effective Office Warning Strategies - Lesson 1: Expertise	08/02/2004	N/A	N/A		Not Attempted	N/A
AWOC IC Core 3: Expertise and Effective Office Warning Strategies - Lesson 2: Cognitive Task Analysis of Expert Warning Forecas	08/02/2004	N/A	N/A		Not Attempted	N/A
AWOC IC Core 3: Expertise and Effective Office Warning Strategies - Lesson 4: Significant Event Management	08/02/2004	N/A	N/A		Not Attempted	N/A
AWOC IC Core 4: Data Quality	08/03/2004	N/A	N/A		Not Attempted	N/A
AWOC IC Core 4: Data Quality - Lesson 1: Radar	08/02/2004	N/A	N/A		Not Attempted	N/A
AWOC IC Core 4: Data Quality - Lesson 2: Spotter Reports	08/02/2004	N/A	N/A		Not Attempted	N/A
AWOC IC Core 4: Data Quality - Lesson 3: Ground Truth Data	08/02/2004	N/A	N/A		Not Attempted	N/A
AWOC IC Core 4: Data Quality - Lesson 4: GOES Satellite Data Quality Issues	08/02/2004	N/A	N/A		Not Attempted	N/A
AWOC IC Core 5: Societal Impacts and Public Perception	08/02/2004	N/A	N/A		Not Attempted	N/A
Designing Local Network Security - Advanced	10/23/2002	12/13/2002	N/A	Fail	incomplete	N/A
e-Learning	10/23/2002	10/23/2002	N/A	Fail	Incomplete	N/A

Figure 18. Student Transcript report.

The "Student Transcript" shows a listing of all students available to you (via your Org Code) grouped by student. It also shows how many times the student has logged in and the amount of time spent logged in.

Students by Course Report

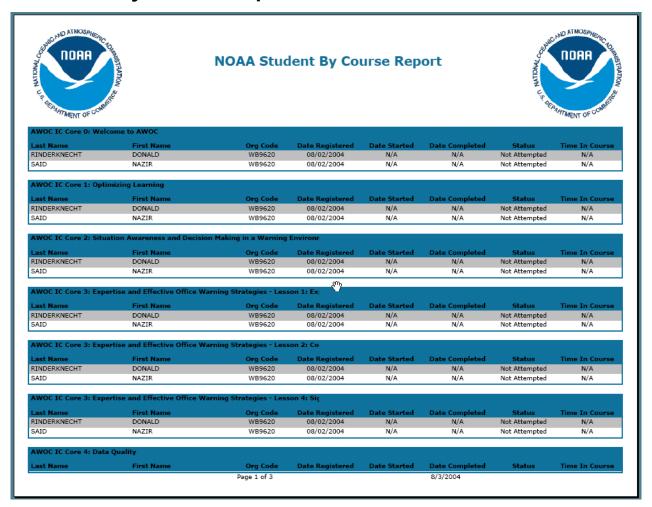


Figure 19. The "Students by Course" report shows a listing of all students in your Org Code grouped by course.

The "Student by Course" report shows a listing of all students available to you (via your Org Code) grouped by course.

Learning Path Report

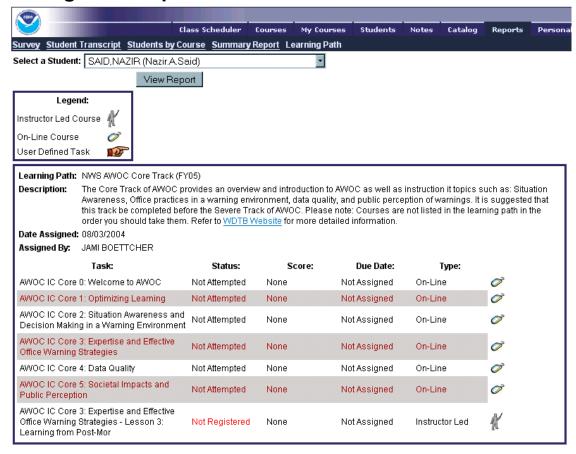


Figure 20. The Learning Path report shows a listing of the learning path with Status and Due Date among other details.

The "Learning Path Report" shows a view of the student's LPs. This is a quick way to see a summary for the progress in a LP.

Questions and Help

If you have questions about how to use the LMS or other "course administration" questions, please do not hesitate to contact WDTB. We will do our best to answer your questions, or find the people in the know.

Contact Us

The easiest way to contact us is via email at **awochelp@wdtb.noaa.gov**. We will also be implementing a new AWOC Facilitator mailing list to foster communication between WDTB and the AWOC Facilitators. More information to come by the end of August 2004.

Website

Visit the WDTB website for more resources. We will be updating the site throughout the year with the latest AWOC related information. Our URL is http://wdtb.noaa.gov.

LMS Tech Support

To provide feedback or questions to GeoLearning Tech Support, click the "Question Mark" icon in the upper right hand corner of any LMS screen. You will be taken to a form to enter your question or problem.

We are trying to track all problems in the LMS, so if you use the tech support link in the LMS, please send an email to **awochelp@wdtb.noaa.gov** with the same information sent to tech support.